My mother operates an architectural design company by herself and her name is Takatou Akira (40 years old)!
When I was eleven, she married Masayuki who was twelve years younger than her
It's been five years
After graduating from university Masayuki also gained a top-level architecture degree and started working at my mother's company
This stepfather, who has no blood relation to me, treats me really well

The three of us lived happy days together as a family
MORNIN'
GOOD MORNING, HAYATO.
THAT'S WEIRD.. WHERE'S AKIRA-SAN?
AH?
To Maa-kun & Hayato
HM?
What's that?
"HAYATO, IT'S THE SAME WITH OR WITHOUT ME AROUND, ISN'T IT?"
"MAA-KUN, I'M SORRY BUT...
I'M JUST NOT OKAY WITH NOT BEING THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SPECIAL TO YOU."

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Therefore,
I'm going on a journey with my new lover!
I thank you dearly for the happy days we've spent together!
I love you Hayato, Masayuki too!♡
PS. Don't bother trying to find me!
WHAT ON EARTH IS SHE UP TO?!
Because There's Nothing You Can Do About It

MAA-KUN!
THIS HAS TO BE A JOKE!
THIS ISN'T A JOKE!
Takatou Architecture Company general lawyer.
It's Kurokawa!
KURO-KAWA? WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?!
YOUR DOOR WASN'T CLOSED.
You should be more careful.
KURO-KAWA-SAN... IS THIS TRUE...?
click
AKIRA-SAN STOPPED BY AT MY PLACE JUST NOW.
SHE GAVE ME SOME FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTS TO TAKE CARE OF.

TAKE CARE OF?!
THEN HOW COME SHE DIDN'T TELL US CLEARLY FACE TO FACE?
WHAT ELSE DID SHE ASK YOU TO TAKE CARE OF?
AKIRA-SAN TOLD ME TO TAKE OVER RUNNING THE BUSINESS, FROM NOW ON IT'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH MASAYUKI-KUN.
ALSO, HAYATO-KUN'S LIVING EXPENSES AND SCHOOL FEES CAN ALL BE PAID FOR FROM THE RENT OF THE APARTMENT IN FRONT OF THE BUS STATION THAT WAS BOUGHT UNDER HIS NAME
THAT INCOME SHOULD BE MORE THAN ENOUGH TO COVER ALL COSTS, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT
AND ONE MORE THING,
AKIRA-SAN ALREADY SIGNED HER SIDE OF THE DIVORCE PAPERS.
SLIDE
PLEASE HAVE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF!
.....

STOP KIDDING AROUND!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ACCEPT THIS!
SLAM
USING G AS A STARTING POINT TO THE MIDDLE OF TRIANGLE ABC..
THIS FORMULA.
FUME
FUME
FUME
WHAT'S WRONG, TAKATOU?
A——RG!

Your mother up and left?
She left behind the divorce papers and just disappeared?
She doesn't want me...
Is that true?
Haa
Haa
What's up with Hayato?
THAT'S A SHOCK, ISN'T IT?
SHOCK ...?
AM I IN SHOCK...?
YOUR MOM LEFT FOR A MAN, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY SHE DOESN'T WANT YOU—!
OI!
Well, mom always did go about doing things without asking me!
It was the same when she married Masayuki—
Shouldn't I be used to it by now?

HAYATO, WE'RE GOING TO GET MARRIED!
HE'LL MARRY INTO MY FAMILY, SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR NAME!
Or move or change schools!
?!
My mom has always been single so I've wanted a father for ages
That's why I don't have any right to oppose her marriage!
But
Where's my real father?
Will I never be able to meet him?
TRY TO GET ALONG, ALRIGHT? MASAYUKI!
HI THERE, HAYATO-KUN!
WAIT A MINUTE, HOW OLD IS HE?!
TWENTY TWO.
YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO BE HIS MOTHER!
BUT HE CAN BE YOUR FATHER TOO!

Well, their divorce has nothing to do with me!
But why do I care about it now?
I'm used to mom not being home, aren't I? This isn't anything new! And it's not bad either!
Besides, if I run into any trouble I've still got relatives...
That's what I'd always thought
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
AAAA
WHOOSH

AHAHA
BANG
?!
MASAYUKI, YOU SHOULD STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT.
HERE, HAVE SOME CAKE!
YOU CAN'T JUST STARVE YOURSELF.
I'LL GO BUY SOME TEA AND MAKE SOME FOR YOU LATER.

HEY! DON'T BE LIKE THAT. IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
THAT'S RIGHT! THE ONLY THING ON THAT WOMAN'S MIND WAS HER COMPANY.
SHE DIDN'T THINK OF YOU AT ALL.

OH! HAYATO-KUN, YOU'RE BACK.
WHO'RE THEY?
THEY HEARD THAT AKIRA-SAN LEFT HOME...
NOW THEY'RE HERE TO TRY AND SEDUCE MASAYUKI-KUN!
STOP SCREWING AROUND! GET OUT, ALL OF YOU!
MAA-KUN HASN'T EVEN DIVORCED YET!
.....!

I SAID
GET OUT!
... WELL THEN... TODAY...
DON'T FORGET TO EAT, MASAYUKI-SAN.
COME ON, ASUKA-CHAN. LET'S GO.
HE'S NOT EVEN YOUR REAL FATHER
THERE'S NO BLOOD RELATION.
YOU'RE JUST AN OUTSIDER!
HAYATO ...
YOU'RE SOAKED IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE AN UMBRELLA, YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED ME AND I'D HAVE GONE TO GET YOU...

Outsider
.....
CREAK

touch..
GRAB
!
WHAT THE HELL?
I'M FINE.
AH... I'M SORRY. UH... YOU HAVEN'T HAD DINNER.
AND YOU CAME HOME SOPPING WET TOO... YOU COULD CATCH A COLD!
You don't have a fever do you?
UM.
APPLE ..
HAYATO.
CRUNCH

.....
NEVER-MIND.
GOOD-NIGHT.
CLOSE
RUSTLE

It's everyone the photos we took when Maa-kun came to our house
On my birthday, during Christmas and on New Year's eve, it was always Maa-kun who suggested we take photos
Since then, we've often taken photos together at home
Mother never cared much about that sort of stuff, so we'd rarely taken photos together at home before
Because Mother was often busy working, she never came to school to see me.
In that race it was the first time I gave it my all.
It was only Maa-kun who brought me lunch and cheered for me as a parent
5 - 3
Fukaku
Father's Day
Mother's Day
Because I loved him so much!
Once when I snuck out to play instead of going to school—
Or if I lied about it
When I skipped class

Even my own Mother wouldn't have been as worried about me.
He would always sadly cry.
So I was afraid of making him cry.
I could only apologize.
MAA-KUN...
I'M SORRY!

MASA-YUKI-KUN,
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
AKIRA-SAN...
AKIRA-SAN'S NOT COMING BACK, IS SHE?
IT SEEMS SO.
EVEN IF SHE'D PLANNED ON LEAVING HOME, SHE OUGHT TO AT LEAST HAVE SAID SOMETHING! SHE SHOULD AT LEAST HAVE SORTED OUT HAYATO'S NEEDS FIRST
HOW CAN SHE JUST GO AND LEAVE BEHIND NOTHING BUT THE DIVORCE PAPERS?

MASA-YUKI-KUN, YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.
YOU SHOULD LOCATE AKIRA-SAN'S PARENTS... AS IN HAYATO'S GRANDPARENTS TALK TO THEM AND SEE IF THEY CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
AND MASAYUKI-KUN?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANTED TO ASK YOU.
IN THE NOTE AKIRA-SAN LEFT, IT SAID
"I'M JUST NOT OKAY WITH NOT BEING THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SPECIAL TO YOU."
AH...
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

MASAYUKI-KUN, IT CAN'T BE...
AKIRA-SAN HAS ANOTHER MAN—
HAYATO?
THERE'S STILL SCHOOL? WHAT ABOUT EATING?
NO NEED.
ERK
HAYATO!
TONIGHT
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU
IS THAT OK?

YEAH...
SUMMER HOLIDAYS START TOMORROW!
I HOPE YOU STUDENTS DON'T CAUSE ANY TROUBLE OUT THERE, OR US TEACHERS MIGHT GET CALLED TO THE POLICE STATION TOO!
HEY, TAKATOU, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
LISTEN HERE!
Answer me!
MASA-YUKI-KUN, IT CAN'T BE...
AKIRA-SAN HAS ANOTHER MAN—
Why didn't Maa-kun say anything?

Is it really as he says?
Did Mother really leave home to live with her new lover?
Even though we don't have any real evidence
I DON'T WANT THEM TO DIVORCE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO BE LONELY BY YOURSELF.
LONELY ...
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH MAA-KUN!

!
HMM?
AHHHHH!
WHERE DID HE RUN OFF TO? WHY ISN'T MAA-KUN HOME?
Pace
Pace
LOOK AT THE TIME! HE'S STILL OUT!
!
RRRRR
MAA-KUN?
SORRY, EVEN THOUGH I WANTED TO GET HOME EARLY...
I WAS DRAGGED OUT TO DINNER BY ASUKA-CHAN AND THE OTHERS...
AHAHAHA

They took my car keys Oh! Kurokawa-san's here too!
WHERE ARE YOU?
By the company...
Hey! It's Maa-kun's turn next!
CLICK
beep—
beep—
THE HELL ...?
"I'm with Asuka-chan and the others..."
ASUKA...
I BET SHE'S TRYING TO USE THIS CHANCE TO GET MAA-KUN!
CLATTER
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
The divorce papers...
Did Kurokawa take them all?
MAA-KUN...
WHY DIDN'T HE TELL ME?

DO YOU REALLY THINK AKIRA-SAN'S GOING TO RETURN?
YOU SHOULD HURRY AND SIGN THOSE DIVORCE PAPERS!
I KNOW.
SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
MAA-KUN!
This is bad!
IS HE SERIOUSLY GOING TO GO AHEAD WITH THE DIVORCE WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT WITH ME FIRST?!
DASH

MAA-KUN, DON'T YOU ALREADY HAVE ACCESS TO HER ACCOUNT?
WHY DON'T YOU CONSIDER REMARRYING?
GETTING A DIVORCE FROM A WOMAN LIKE THAT IS GOOD FOR YOU!
HEY, KURO-KAWA-SAN...
DO YOU HAVE THE DIVORCE PAPERS WITH YOU?
YES, I DO
TAKE THEM OUT!
AND GET HIM TO SIGN HIS NAME ON THEM.
JUST HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
EH? JUS—
JUST—

Pant
Pant
OI! DON'T FORCE OTHER PEOPLE TO DO THINGS!
THIS IS HIS OWN PRO-BLEM!
HAYATO!
HAYATO, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE AGAINST THEIR DIVORCE!
IN ANY CASE YOU AND MAA-KUN HAVE NO BLOOD RELATION!
THE ONE WHO'S MEDDLING IS YOUR MOTHER,
AND EVEN SHE'S ALREADY SIGNED HER SIDE OF THE PAPERS!
YEAH?
SO WHAT!

I DON'T CARE WHAT SHE'S DONE, THAT'S HER BUSINESS...
AND SO WHAT?!
SHE NEVER ASKED FOR MY OPINION...
WHEN MY MOTHER AND MAA-KUN GOT MARRIED,
MAA-KUN AND I BECAME FAMILY.
SHE LEFT HOME FOR ANOTHER MAN!
AND EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SIGNED HER SIDE OF THE PAPERS,
AND NOW IF THEY'RE NOT HUSBAND AND WIFE ANYMORE,
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME?
HE AND I AREN'T RELATED BY BLOOD, BUT WE'RE STILL A FAMILY, AREN'T WE?

AS LONG AS WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER, WHO CARES IF WE'RE RELATED BY BLOOD OR NOT?
AS LONG AS WE CAN GET ALONG,
ISN'T THAT JUST AS GOOD AS BEING A REAL FAMILY?
I WANT TO BE FAMILY WITH MAA-KUN FOR-EVER!

huh?
IF THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU WANT,
THEN I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY.
run
BANG
THAT BRAT
THAT...
MASA-YUKI-KU—
AHH

Pant
Pant
HAYATO.
DID YOU MEAN IT?
...ABOUT WANTING TO BE A FAMILY?
I'VE ALREADY EXPRESSED MYSELF...
I NEVER... I NEVER ONCE CONSIDERED YOU AN OUTSIDER!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT.

ME TOO!
I ALSO WANT TO BE A FAMILY WITH YOU, HAYATO.
LIVING TOGETHER!
... YOU MEAN IT?
WHAT? YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?
WELL...
IN THAT LETTER THAT MY MOTHER LEFT...
IT SAID YOU HAD ANOTHER WOMAN IN YOUR HEART.
SO I THOUGHT YOU WERE CHEATING ON HER.
I'M SORRY, OK?

AH! ABOUT THAT!
THAT IS...
AKIRA-SAN AND I MARRIED OUT OF LOVE,
AND AFTER THE MARRIAGE, YOU ALSO BECAME A PART OF MY FAMILY, HAYATO.
OF COURSE, AKIRA-SAN IS MY FAMILY TOO.
BUT I..
I LOVED BOTH OF YOU EQUALLY.
WHAT?
I CAN SEE HOW AKIRA-SAN MIGHT'VE BELIEVED THAT...
I WAS SEEING SOMEONE ELSE ON THE SIDE...

I'M RELIEVED
IF YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, DIDN'T WANT ME ANYMORE,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO. .
HAYATO!

GEEZ,
JUST SEC, I'M NEARLY DONE!
ARE YOU TWO GOING BY CAR? IS THERE A PARKING LOT?
WE'LL PARK AROUND THE AREA IT'LL BE FINE
I'M SORRY FOR HAVING YOU BE OUR DRIVER EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SO BUSY.
NO, IT'S ALRIGHT. I'M FINISHED WITH EVERY-THING, ANYWAY.
I'LL TAG ALONG WITH YOU TO WATCH THE FIRE-WORKS
IT'S AN ANNUAL TRADITION.
EVEN THOUGH... AKIRA-SAN'S NOT HERE THIS YEAR.
OH YEAH, HAYATO...
IF I DON'T SIGN THE DIVORCE PAPERS, AKIRA-SAN CAN'T REMARRY.
I wonder if that's ok.
YEAH?

KUROKAWA, WE'LL LEAVE THE PAPERS TO YOU!
I ALREADY KNEW THAT
OH? OK...
YOU'RE LEAVING ME TO TAKE CARE OF IT?
WE KNOW YOU'RE TRUST-WORTHY, KURO-KAWA!
IT'LL BE FINE!
These two completely unrelated men actually merged into one family
It's quite remarkable!
NOW, C'MON C'MON!
HURRY IT UP MAA-KUN!

END